

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 23, 2009

The Honorable Barack H. Obama  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20502-0001

Dear President Obama:

We write to support the request from the State of North Dakota to declare an expedited major disaster for the State as a result of severe flooding. With an expedited major disaster declaration, the State would be able to obtain the resources it needs to address this emergency situation.

Our State has experienced near record setting snow accumulations this fall and winter. Rapid snow melt and dangerous spring ice and snow storms throughout North Dakota are expected to result in record flooding in communities along the Red River, Souris, James and Missouri River Basins as well as in the Devils Lake Basin.

These disastrous conditions are beyond the capability of the State and warrant federal assistance. We strongly urge you to quickly approve the State's request for assistance so that it can provide potable water for communities, evaluate water and sewer systems, purchase sand bagging machines and sand bags, acquire water control barriers and emergency pumping as well as provide assistance for supporting evacuees and shelters.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,



EARL POMEROY  
Member of Congress



KENT CONRAD  
U.S. Senator



BYRON L. DORGAN  
U.S. Senator